

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 4 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

Please amend Claim 1 and add Claims 5 to 7, as shown below.

1. (Currently Amended) An electronic apparatus including a memory to which a power is supplied from a main power supply of the apparatus, a main switch for controlling turn-on/turn-off of the main power supply of the apparatus and a soft-switch for controlling mechanical closing/opening of the main switch, said apparatus further comprising:

A3 control means for determining whether important ~~important~~ data which causes serious damage when erased is stored in the memory, when the shutdown of the main power supply is instructed by the soft-switch, and for controlling a shutdown operation of the main power supply by the main switch according to a result of the determination;

backup battery for supplying power to the memory while the main power supply is shut down;

switch means controlling the supply from the backup battery to the memory,

wherein said control means forcibly holds the supply from the backup battery to the memory through the switch means when the control means determines that important data is stored in the memory.

2. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control means inhibits the mechanical opening of the main switch when it is determined that important data is stored in the memory.

3. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control means warns a user that important data is being erased, when it is determined that the important data is stored in the memory.

4. (Cancelled)

93 5. (New) A method for use with an electronic apparatus having memory, power is supplied to the apparatus from a main power supply of the apparatus, a main switch controls the main power supply, and a soft-switch controls a mechanical closing and opening of the main switch, the method comprising:

determining whether important data which causes serious damage when erased is stored in the memory of the apparatus, when the shutdown of the main power supply is instructed by the soft-switch;

controlling a shutdown operation of the main power supply by the main switch when it is determined that important data is stored in the memory; and

controlling a backup power supply to supply power to the memory while the main power supply is shut down when it is determined that important data is stored in the memory.

6. (New) A method according to claim 5, further comprising:

inhibiting the mechanical opening of the main switch when it is determined that important data is stored in the memory.

7. (New) A method according to claim 5, further comprising:

warning a user that important data is being erased, when it is determined

that the important data is stored in the memory.

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